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PATENT  
Dkt. STL11386

Transmission by Facsimile on November 15, 2006

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Michael W. Pfeiffer, Dennis R. Nielsen and Thomas P. O'Neill  
Assignee: SEAGATE TECHNOLOGY LLC  
Application No.: 10/817,609 Group Art Unit: 3729  
Filed: April 2, 2004 Examiner: Tai V. Nguyen  
For: APPARATUS FOR PROTECTING AND MERGING A HEAD STACK  
ASSEMBLY

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION  
MAILED AUGUST 16, 2006

Sir:

This is in response to the non-final Office Action mailed August 16, 2006.

A Listing of Claims begins on page 2.

Remarks begin on page 7.

## CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that, on the date shown below, this correspondence is being:

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